

19. (Four Times Amended) A device for affixing objects to products moving in a row, the device comprising a stationary holder for a stock of the objects, wherein each object may have a different thickness, and affixing means comprising at least one suction nozzle on a carrier for removing one of the objects from the holder and moving the object, wherein the affixing means is capable of rotary movement about an axis of rotation and affixing the object to a moving product during the rotary movement of the affixing means, wherein the affixing means is further capable of being driven intermittently between rotation and standstill, wherein during standstill of the affixing means the carrier is positioned in alignment with an object in the holder and is movable in a radial direction with respect to the axis of rotation for attaching the at least one suction nozzle to the object and for removing the object from the holder, and wherein the at least one suction nozzle of the carrier directly faces the object within the holder.

REMARKS

The amendments to claim 19 presented herewith were discussed with the Examiner during a telephone interview on Wednesday, June 11, 2003 and, at that time, the Examiner indicated that, to the best of her knowledge, claim 19, as amended, defined over the prior art of record. If after consideration of the present Amendment, the Examiner arrives at a different conclusion, then prior to issuing an Office Action, please telephone the applicant to discuss this matter.

Claims 19-21, 23-29, 31-33 and 37 remain in this application. Claim 19 has been amended while the remaining claims remain unchanged. No new subject matter is believed to have been added by this Amendment.

In Section No. 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 19-21, 23-29, 31-33 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably